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AS I LAY DYING

SHAPED BY FIRE

BURN TO EMERGE

will i ever escape? / can we ever change?

BLINDED

have you ever been blinded by the pain? / blinded (blinded) by the pain / unwilling to see, senseless / so blinded by selfishness only focusing on myself / and ignoring anyone else / becoming driven by despair / feeling trapped into a corner / losing more and more of reality / perceiving all the hurt only one-sidedly / have you ever been blinded by the pain? / losing yourself inside the heartache / losing yourself / feeling too powerless to change / stuck and unable to escape / incapable to see another way / i need someone to shake me... to wake me / i don't even need full clarity / just to start the shift from blind to blurry / have you ever been blinded by the pain? / losing yourself inside the heartache / and does that mean we cannot change? / or will we always be seen that way? / will we always be seen that way? / and does that really mean we have not changed? / or does it only mean / the truth is not in how we're seen? / but in the actions that we're now determined to take / revealing the new path we chose to mend the heartache / was it a pattern or a disastrous mistake? / is the truth in what you see or what i say?

SHAPED BY FIRE

the wise before me chose to refine themselves / melt away their shortcomings by enduring trials / a process we will all undertake / even if we try to prevent change / face it before you are pulled in / face it while it's still within / like iron shaped by fire / we aren't born this way / shaped by fire / we are reborn through pain / we aren't born this way / we are reborn through pain / though i too have endured fire / i wasn't wise enough to ignite the flame myself / but carried enough fuel for a flicker to excel / face it before you are pulled in / face it while it's still within / shaped by fire / we aren't born this way / shaped by fire / we are reborn through pain / we aren't born this way / we are reborn through pain / the time has come to watch the fire grow / find new things to throw in don't let the flames get low / i've grown used to the heat / that makes me reevaluate / what i carry with me / and what should be thrown away / face it before you are pulled in / face it while it's still within

UNDERTOW

the life that i sought was already like a jail / long before i was ever bound / wrapped up in chains / no one had built the bonds used to hold me captive / i had locked away myself in a captain-less ship / destined to destroy ashore / destruction was my savior / crushing, collapse, crashing / from the impact / i can't escape the undertow that's pulling me / but i keep fighting to get away / the undertow that's pulling me, pulling me / my control disappeared / 'cause it was never real / aboard a ship with nowhere to go / guided by lifelessness / a skeleton without a soul / crushing / collapse looming ahead / crashing is imminent / from the impact / though i found freedom when / i stopped fighting everyone else / and loosened up the anchor / that i had tied around myself / i let go of the chains (chains) / just let go of the chains / i let go of the chains used to hold me in / my additions / killing me from within / i can't escape the undertow that's pulling me / but i keep fighting to get away / the undertow that's pulling me, pulling me / i can't escape the undertow that's pulling me / but i keep trying to get away / the undertow that's pulling me, pulling me / just let go of the chains (chains) / i let go of the chains used to hold me in my addiction

TORN BETWEEN

pulled both ways but still suspended / the worst of each, reduced and blended / still suspended / i thought i was stuck between two worlds / because i was not willing to let go / recklessly pulled both ways / but somehow still suspended / the worst of each / the worst reduced and blended / but as life unfolded i realized / the momentum to drift from side to side / came from within, came from inside / i feel torn between two hearts dying but i'll trade them in for one / broken and exposed, collapsing / so why would i hold on? / one heart turned black, burned black / the other blue and bruised / arms breaking, arms breaking from the dreams / dreams shattered, the dreams that i can't reach / there has to be a choice i have not seen / one darkened over time burning away the shame / erasing hidden insights i did not want to be seen / the other was beaten from being exposed / so it hurt less to never hold it close / neither heart had power to fill my veins / or be the source of who i want to be



GATEKEEPER

you've lost touch / you've lost touch with the outcasts / have you forgotten your own past? / have you forgotten that your house is made of glass? / so while you're pointing your fingers / you are unable to use your hands to help with solving, solving real and present problems / 'cause we're appalling and you've become too perfect to understand / you're a gatekeeper / blocking the entrance to nowhere / you're a gatekeeper / trying to keep others in despair / i don't want you to get dirty reaching down to a lowly creature / i don't want you to show mercy and make me like you, self-righteous preacher / did you think you were the only one / the only one who held the keys? / did you hope that your judgment would / spread just like a disease? / the self importance of the moral elite / to think that their approval means anything / so eager to capitalize / capitalize on other people's pain / but when the healing begins / so quick to turn away / have you forgotten? / have you forgotten your own past? / you're a gatekeeper / blocking the entrance to nowhere / you're a gatekeeper / keeping others in despair

THE WRECKAGE

the wreckage seemed too great for me / i saw my dreams collapsing (collapsing) / but through debris of tragedy / not one of us died fighting / we somehow found a way through storming weather / enduring skies turned gray when we all said never / the winds, the rain / downpour needed to cultivate / we don't get to choose when it rains / we can fight or just get washed away / will we be transformed or feel like we're drowning? / the wreckage / so use the storms ahead to flood out shortcomings / and then use what is left to water what is worth planting / the winds, the rain / downpour needed to cultivate / debris, tragedy / but not one of us died... / but not one of us died fighting / we don't get to choose when it rains / we can fight or just get washed away / will we be transformed or feel like we're drowning? / will we fight or just get washed away? / and now the mountains that we face / are starting to look more like hills / we rose to a higher plain so the whole horizon fell / it fell, the whole horizon fell / through the debris of tragedy / not one of us died fighting / deep roots that refuse... / deep roots that refuse to break

MY OWN GRAVE

the lies, the weight, deceit, decay / the lies, the weight, it's clear i lost my way / deceit, decay, decomposing / i thought i was an architect but i was just moving dirt / stacking mud over malice covered-up forming / nothing but a pile of hurt / i hadn't been building (building) / the time was spent digging (digging) / boring the barriers that kept others away (away) / the deeper the walls the less anyone could hear (hear me) fall / so now i know there is no one else to blame / buried alive inside of my own grave / and there's no one else to blame / buried alive inside of my own grave, inside of my own grave / beneath my lies / delusional enough to think i'd designed something great / like a giant headstone inscribed to describe my shameful fate / i hadn't been building (building) / the time was spent digging (digging) / an ugly truth from which there was no way to escape (escape) / nowhere left to hide and then finally forced to face what i'd become / beneath my pride crushing me / beneath my lies collapsing / but we are still alive, we are still alive / buried alive inside of my own grave / and there's no one else to blame / buried alive inside of my own grave / my own grave / buried alive inside of my own grave / and there's no one else to blame / the lies and the weight, i know i lost my way (my way) / what i'd become / buried alive inside of my own grave (my grave) / and there's no one else to blame / buried alive... buried alive / finally forced to face what i'd become / what i'd become in my own grave (buried) / in my own grave (alive)

TAKE WHAT'S LEFT

i took what you gave me, destroyed it all / i had to lose everything to know that i was wrong / and now i see what was true all along / a void in me now that everything is gone / now that everything is gone / the emptiness can be a source of clarity / taking away a way for us to hide / always revealing / no choice but to rebuild / no voice, no peace, no love, no home / nothing left to hold / nothing left but hope / take my broken frame / what still remains free from the chains / nothing left to hold, nothing left but hope / like hunting for prey that we don't even need to track / so easy to follow what's next, we are left with



only one path, one path / no choice but to rebuild / no voice, no peace, no love, no home / nothing left but hope / take my broken frame / what still remains free from the chains / take what's left in me, what's worth saving / no matter how much time it takes / from merely hope we are brought back to life / from broken bones we revive / take what's left and create / take what's left and then rebuild / you had every reason to give up on me / but you stood and waited when everyone ran away / i took your gifts, destroyed them all and then lost everything to know that i was wrong / but you still carried me when you could barely walk / you reminded me i was never too far gone / take what's left / take what's left and rebuild

REDEFINED

i refuse to let go of the memories / 'cause they've changed everything inside of me / if i could go back now to save myself the loss / substanceless character brought back would be the cost / agony today / is tomorrow's strength / so don't run away / 'cause misery is... / evolving into something that we can't see / evolving and becoming, transforming / so don't run away / the pain can never be erased / remain and turn it into strength, turn it into strength / what do we value in the midst of complacency? / but in despair we beg for something, anything / even our mistakes / can have the power / to light the way / like a glaring tower / the pain can never be erased / remain and turn it into strength / from our failures we are refined / replacing frailty / allowing us to be / redefined / healed scars can be stronger than skin / the wounds we have can be rewritten / redefined / redefined / redefined / agony today / is tomorrow's strength... redefined / so don't run away / don't run away / misery's evolving

ONLY AFTER WE'VE FALLEN

the worst form of illness is one that goes undiagnosed / subtle decay secretly spread, a cancer of the soul / a cancer... a cancer of the soul / we are all dying / some of us just faster than our friends / but pointing to a greater fault won't cure what we have hidden / i used to be able to pretend but i can no longer hide from who i am / my deceit was displayed for all to see / the only thing that could have saved me / only after we've fallen / can we then find the cure / looking up from the bottom / when dust settles it's clear / it's so easy to believe that you are nothing like me / 'cause your deceit is lesser and yet to be seen / but doesn't that change what you're hiding? / only after we've fallen / can we find the cure / we are all dying / a cancer of the soul / we are all dying / a cancer of the soul / a heart that is bound by snakes / with a mind that sprouting wings / a dangerous combination / that fails to address our infection / my deceit was displayed for all to see / the only thing that could have saved me / only after we've fallen (fallen) / we are all dying (dying) / but will we find the cure? / only after we've fallen / looking up from the bottom / it seems so clear

THE TOLL IT TAKES

there's a sentence they gave me / then one that remains unchanging / like skin that's burnt by frost / it'll peel if i pull away / it hurts to hold or let go / as i'm trying to sustain / like feeling hunger pangs and eating bone to stay alive / it tears me apart inside but it seems like the better way to get by / like a broken hourglass they fell / cutting sand through my fingers down the deepest well / i know the toll it takes but i won't let you go / the past i can't replace / is all that you'll ever know / there is no turning back / i can't fix what i broke / the past i can't replace / is all that you'll ever know / you're a part of me that i may never be able to repair / like a lung that's collapsed / i'll always know that you're still there / always surrounding my heart / even if it rejects air / the true sentence i still face / is one i brought upon myself / lost in a dark cell / they said it's easiest to just numb yourself and let go / but these open wounds will forever feel fresh / and i refuse to let them close yet / i know the toll it takes / but i won't let you go

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Tim Lambesis - Vocals
Nick Hipa - Guitars
Phil Sgroso - Guitars

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Thank you for giving us this chance to do what we love.

Heart Support

If you or anyone you know are struggling with depression, addiction,
or any other form of mental health issues, please visit heartsupport.com.
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